

Accident / Incident Report Closed



Unit/Department	Process Area	Site	Report Number
South Operation-Elyria		ELYRIA	0084-SOPS-14-0007
Report Date	Incident Date	Incident Time	Copied From
01/15/2014	01/15/2014	09:45 AM	
Incident Location	Team Leader / Supervisor	Reported By	
2nd Floor BLDG 31 #1 Feed Hopper	Terrance Vanderbosch	Rory O'Donnell	
Title of Event (Limit to 90 characters)	Category	Division / Bus. Group / Subgroup Code	
Nox release in Building 31.	<input type="checkbox"/> Safety & Health <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental	CC / G-CCP	

Incident Classification

<input type="checkbox"/> Near Miss	<input type="checkbox"/> Property Loss	<input type="checkbox"/> Contractor
<input type="checkbox"/> Process Safety	<input type="checkbox"/> Citation / NOV	<input type="checkbox"/> Contractor Injury / Illness
<input type="checkbox"/> Injury / Illness	<input type="checkbox"/> Health Exposure	<input type="checkbox"/> Contract Injury / Illness
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Spill / Release	<input type="checkbox"/> Inspection	<input type="checkbox"/> PSM
<input type="checkbox"/> Permit / Regulatory Deviation	<input type="checkbox"/> Major Incident	<input type="checkbox"/> Plant Upset
<input type="checkbox"/> Fire	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Occupational	<input type="checkbox"/> EHS Management System Failure
<input type="checkbox"/> Odor Complaint	<input type="checkbox"/> RMP	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

Describe Event / What Happened

Calciner # 1 feed hopper was allowed to run empty causing a visible amount of yellow NoX gas to be released through the mouth of feed hopper 1 on the second floor of Bldg 31. This resulted in the evacuation of the building and a callout of the site ERT.

Immediate Corrective Action or Response

Sack of product dropped into feed hopper stemming flow of gas. Evac alarm hit.

Immediate Cause

Hopper not refilled. Calciner allowed to run empty. Slide gate left open.

Spill Release Type(s)	Non RQ Spill / Release						
Chemical(s) Involved	CAS #	Phy. State	Air	Land	Water	Contmt	Units
Nitrogen Dioxide (NOx)	10102-44-0	Gas	1.11	0	0	0	lbs
Disposition of Material	released to air						
Weather Conditions	Skies:	Temperature:	Wind Direction:	Wind Speed:			

Cause Narrative

Calciner began to NOx when feed hopper ran empty because no operator was assigned to that job.

Contributing Causes	Root/Primary Causes		
No operator assigned to #1RC even though the job was running.	180 - Immediate Supervision	181 - Preparation	183 - Job Plan LTA
CRT continued to operate the calciner even though there was no operator assigned to the job.	192 - Communications	194 - No Communication or Not Timely	197 - Communication Between Shifts and Management LTA
Calciner operators should have realized that the feed hopper was running empty even though the extruder operator is generally responsible for keeping the feed hopper empty.	163 - Training	170 - Training LTA	175 - On-the-Job Training LTA

Explanation of Root Causes

180/181/183 - Previous shift GL's create line up for the next shift. #1RC was running during the previous shift but there

was no operator assigned to that job for the upcoming shift.
192/194/197 - CRT likely assumed there was someone running the calciner even though there was no one specified on the line up.

163/170/175 - Experienced operators will know to feed the calciner based on sounds that the feed hopper makes when running empty. This would have been a sign prior to the calciner NOxing to load the hopper.

Any known or potential off-site impacts?	No	PSM Incident?	No	Estimated Cost:	5,000.00 USD
Investigation Team	John Bodmann; Rory O'Donnell; Raymond A Navarro; Jefferson Lewis; David P Allen; Justin Quach; Jennifer Bailey; John R Crawford				

Item	Corrective Action(s) to prevent recurrence	Responsible Person	Target Date	Final Closed Date	VC Req	VE Req
1	B: GL's to discuss possibility of moving shift to assure overlap for better hand off and communication.	Dennis Lucas/NA/BASF	01/31/2014	02/07/2014	N	N
2	B: Review NOx start-up checklist to assure it makes sense.	David P Allen/BASF-CATALYSTS/BASF	02/04/2014	02/12/2014	N	N
3	B: Once NOx checklist is completed, review with all GL's to assure understanding and compliance. Calciner should not be started without checklist in hand.	Dennis Lucas/NA/BASF	02/07/2014	03/01/2014	N	N
4	B: Talk to Leadership Team about auditing this process as part of weekly Safety Walks. LT signs off to verify this was complete.	Rory O'Donnell/NA/BASF	02/07/2014	02/14/2014	N	N

Approved By:	
Manager / Dept. Head	Leon Zavodnik 01/30/2014 02:25 PM
EHS Unit Coordinator	Tim Anglin 02/04/2014 12:34 PM
Employee	Terrence M Vanderbosch 02/01/2014 04:44 AM